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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/812,683	03/21/2001	Thiow Keng Tan	P20799	1892
7055	7590	04/27/2004	EXAMINER	
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.			COUSO, JOSE L	
1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE			ART UNIT	
RESTON, VA 20191			PAPER NUMBER	
			2621	
			DATE MAILED: 04/27/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/812,683

Applicant(s)

TAN ET AL.

Examiner

Jose L. Couso

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 4,5 and 15-16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 12-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6-11 and 17-22 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/21/01.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-3 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sekiguchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,404,815).

With regard to claims 1 and 12, Sekiguchi describes an encoding means for encoding a sequence of picture information into a coded representation and locally reconstructed pictures by one picture at every one time instance (see figure 1 and refer for example to column 16, lines 31-63); a means for filtering the locally reconstructed picture to obtain a locally filtered picture (see figure 22 and refer for example to column 31, line 52 through column 32, lines 32, note the physical location of the filter is as shown in figure 24, which corresponds to the inside of element 21 in figure 2, which itself corresponds to the inside of element 8 in figure 1 as described in column 32, lines 49-55, column 17, line 38 through column 18, line 22); a means for selecting a local

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reference picture from a group consisting of the locally reconstructed picture and the locally filtered picture of a same time instance (see figure 1, elements and refer for example to column 16, lines 45-63 and column 17, lines 8-18); and a means for using the local reference picture in order to predict a motion compensation of a next picture in the in the encoding means (see figure 1, element 9 and refer for example to column 17, lines 8-11).

As to claims 2 and 13, Sekiguchi describes a decoding means for decoding a coded representation into a sequence of reconstructed pictures by one picture at every one time instance (see figure 28 and refer for example to column 34, lines 26-49); a means for filtering the reconstructed picture to obtain a filtered picture (see figure 30, step S72 and refer for example to column 36, lines 13-41, the reduction of the picture portion positioned in the display area which is used for reconstructing the picture corresponds to applicant's filtering of the reconstructed picture); a means for selecting a reference picture from a group consisting of the reconstructed picture and the filtered picture of a same time instance (refer for example to column 36, lines 43-49); and a means for using the reference picture in order to predict a motion compensation of a next picture in the in the decoding means (refer for example to column 36, line 51 through column 37, line 33).

In regard to claims 3 and 14, Sekiguchi describes an encoding means for encoding a sequence of picture information into a coded representation by one picture at every one time instance (see figure 1 and refer for example to column 16, lines 31-63); a decoding means for decoding the coded representation into a sequence of

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reconstructed pictures by one picture at every one time instance (see figure 28 and refer for example to column 34, lines 26-49); a means for filtering the reconstructed picture to obtain a filtered picture (see figure 30, step S72 and refer for example to column 36, lines 13-41, the reduction of the picture portion positioned in the display area which is used for reconstructing the picture corresponds to applicant's filtering of the reconstructed picture); a means for selecting a reference picture from a group consisting of the reconstructed picture and the filtered picture of a same time instance (refer for example to column 36, lines 43-49); and a means for using the reference picture in order to predict a motion compensation of a next picture in the in the decoding means (refer for example to column 36, line 51 through column 37, line 33).

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Bose et al. disclose systems similar to applicant's claimed invention.

4. Claims 4-5 and 15-16 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of the record fail to teach or suggest singly and/or in combination a method and

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apparatus for improving a picture quality in decoding of digitally compressed video which provides decoding a coded representation into a sequence of reconstructed pictures by one picture at every one time instance, filtering the reconstructed picture to obtain a filtered picture, selecting a display picture from a group consisting of the reconstructed picture and the filtered picture of a same time instance, selecting a display picture from a group consisting of the reconstructed picture and the filtered picture of a same time instance, selecting a reference picture from a group consisting of the reconstructed picture and the display picture of a same time instance, using the reference picture in order to predict a motion compensation of a next picture in the in the decoding as prescribed for in the claimed inventions as set forth in independent claims 4-5 and 15-16.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

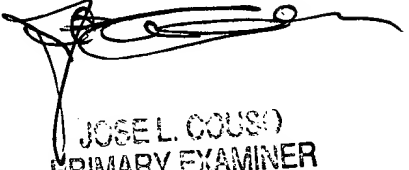
6. Claims 6-11 and 17-22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jose L. Couso whose telephone number is (703) 305-4774. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 6:30 to 3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Boudreau, can be reached on (703) 305-4706. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8576.



JOSE L. COUSO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Jlc
April 13, 2004